PATENT Docket No. 388402000900

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on June 5, 2000.

Jacquelige L. Lim

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Barry N. GARDINER et al

Serial No.:

08/781,579

Filing Date:

January 9, 1997

For:

SUTURED STAPLE SURGICAL

FASTENERS, INSTRUMENTS AND

METHODS FOR MINIMALLY INVASIVE VASCULAR AND ENDOSCOPIC SURGERY Examiner: L. Ngo

Group Art Unit: 3731

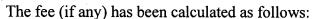
AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment in response to the Office Action dated February 3, 2000 in the above-referenced patent application:

- A verified Statement of Small Entity Status was previously submitted.
- A Petition for Extension of Time is enclosed. (1 months).
- □ No additional fee is required.
- Other enclosures: Return Receipt Postcard.



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FOR	CLAIMS ON FILE AFTER THIS AMENDMENT MINUS HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS	53-66	0	x \$18.00	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	12-18	0	x \$78.00	\$0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if not previously paid for and + \$260.00 presented for the first time) *				\$0.00
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$0.00
Reduction by ½ for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).				\$0.00
多对性和体		* 14. * *	SUB TOTAL =	\$0.00
Petition for Extension of Time				\$55.00
		********	TOTAL =	\$55.00

- A check in the amount of \$55.00 is attached.
- Please charge \$0.00 to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 388402000900.
- The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this transmittal and associated documents, or to credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 388402000900. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed, for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

JUN 0

Dated: June 5, 2000

By:

rank P. Becking

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